Application No.: 10/621,389 Docket No.: 0171-0994P

IN THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A curable fluoropolyether composition comprising
- (A) a base polymer consisting of a fluoropolyether compound containing alkenyl radicals in a concentration of $3x10^{-5}$ to $5x10^{-3}$ mol/g and having a fluorine content of at least 40% by weight, the alkenyl radicals being attached either directly to both ends of the backbone of the fluoropolyether compound, wherein the fluoropolyether compound (A) is one having the following formula (1):

wherein X is independently selected from among -CH₂-, -CH₂O- and -Y-NR¹-CO-, wherein Y is -CH₂- or a radical of the following structural formula (Z):

$$CH_3$$
 $-Si$
 CH_3
 CH_3
 (Z)

wherein the bond may be at o, m or p-position and R¹ is hydrogen, methyl, phenyl or allyl,

X' is independently selected from among -CH₂-, -OCH₂- and -CO-NR²-Y'-, wherein Y' is -CH₂- or a radical of the following structural formula (Z'):

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wherein the bond may be at o, m or p-position and R² is hydrogen, methyl, phenyl or allyl,

and p is independently equal to 0 or 1, L is an integer of 2 to 6, and m and n each are an integer of 0 to 200,

(B) a crosslinking agent or chain extender consisting of an organosilicon compound having the average compositional formula:(1) (2):

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ H-SiO_{1/2} \\ R \end{bmatrix}_{n+2} \begin{bmatrix} Rf \\ SiO_{3/2} \\ \end{bmatrix}_{n}$$
 (2)

wherein R is an alkyl radical of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, Rf is a partially fluorinated alkyl radical of 3 to 16 carbon atoms or a partially fluorinated, ether bond-containing monovalent saturated radical, and n has an average value of 1.5 to 6.0, and

- (C) a hydrosilylation catalyst, components (B) and (C) being used in effective amounts for component (A) to cure.
- 2. (Original) A rubber article comprising the curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 in the cured state.
- 3. (Original) The rubber article of claim 2 which is suitable for use in automobiles, chemical plants, ink jet printers, semiconductor manufacturing lines, analytic and scientific instruments, medical equipment, aircraft or fuel cells.

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4. (Original) The rubber article of claim 2 which is in the form of a diaphragm, valve, Oring, oil seal, gasket, packing, joint or face seal.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 wherein Rf in formula (1) (2) is selected from the group consisting of the following formulae:

7. (Previously Presented) The curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 wherein component (B) is blended in such an amount that 0.5 to 5 moles of hydrosilyl radicals are present per mole of alkenyl radicals in the entire composition.